

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace the claims with the following listing:

1. (Currently Amended) A surge absorber without chips, comprising:

a pair of lead terminals, each having a lead portion and a broadened tip forming a discharge electrode, at least one broadened tip having a projected or patterned surface;

sealing spacers fitted and fixed on the lead portion of said lead terminal; and

a one piece cylindrical housing; wherein

E said pair of lead terminals ~~each having~~ and said sealing spacer afixed thereon are inserted from open ends on both sides of said housing into an interior of said housing, and the two sealing spacers are fixed airtightly ~~on to an inside wall of~~ on to an inside wall of said housing at said interior while the discharge electrodes are held in said housing facing one another with a predetermined distance therebetween.

2. (Currently Amended) A surge absorber without chips, comprising:

a pair of lead terminals, each having a lead portion and a broadened tip forming a discharge electrode, at least one broadened tip having a projected or patterned surface;

sealing spacers fitted and fixed on the lead portion of said lead terminal; and

a one piece cylindrical housing; wherein

said pair of lead terminals ~~each having~~ and said sealing spacer afixed thereon are inserted from open ends on both sides of said housing into an interior of said housing, and the two sealing spacers are welded on an inside wall at said interior of said housing to airtightly seal said housing while the discharge electrodes are held in said housing facing one another with a predetermined distance therebetween.

3. (Previously Amended) The surge absorber without chips defined in Claim 1, wherein:

an air chamber provided in the housing is filled with clean, dry air, or a mixed gas comprising clean, dry air and an inert gas or hydrogen gas.

4. (Original) The surge absorber without chips defined in Claim 3, wherein:
the clean, dry air sealed in the air chamber has a relative humidity of 5% or less,
and a degree of cleanliness of 99.99% (0.5umDOP), which is higher than the degree of
cleanliness of obtained through filtering normal air.
5. (Previously Amended) The surge absorber without chips defined in Claim 1, wherein:
said sealing spacers have a shape of a sphere or a cylinder with a central fitting
through-hole in which the lead portions of the lead terminals are inserted.
6. (Previously Amended) The surge absorber without chips defined in Claim 1, wherein:
the lead terminals are formed of Dumet wires.
7. (Previously Amended) The surge absorber without chips defined in Claim 1, wherein:
the lead terminals are formed of combined lead wires in which portions that weld
with the sealing spacers are composed of Dumet wires.
8. (Previously Added) The surge absorber without chips defined in Claim 2, wherein:
an air chamber provided in the housing is filled with clean, dry air, or a mixed gas
comprising clean, dry air and an insert gas or hydrogen gas.
9. (Currently Amended) The surge absorber without chips defined in Claim 2, wherein
said sealing spacers have a shape of a sphere or a cylinder with a central fitting
through-hole in which the lead portions of the lead terminals are inserted.
10. (Previously Added) The surge absorber without chips defined in Claim 2, wherein
the lead terminals are formed of Dumet wires.
11. (Currently Amended) The surge absorber without chips defined in Claim 2, wherein
the lead terminals are formed of combined lead wires in which portions that weld
with the sealing spacers are composed of Dumet wires.

12. (Previously Added) The surge absorber without chips defined in Claim 8, wherein:
the clean, dry air sealed in the air chamber has a relative humidity of 5% or less,
and a degree of cleanliness of 99.99% ($0.5\mu\text{mDOP}$), which is higher than the degree of
cleanliness obtained through filtering normal air.

13. (New) The surge absorber without chips defined in claim 1, wherein:
the projected surface comprises a protrusion having a substantially conical shape
extending from the broadened tip in a direction of a longitudinal axis of the lead portion.

14. (New) The surge absorber without chips defined in claim 1, wherein:
the projected surface comprises a protruding portion extending from an edge of the
broadened tip, the protruding portion delimiting a conical cavity in the broadened tip.

15. (New) The surge absorber without chips defined in claim 1, wherein:
the projected surface comprises a semi-spherical protrusion extending from the
broadened tip.

16. (New) The surge absorber without chips defined in claim 1, wherein:
the patterned surface comprises grooves forming a grid pattern on the broadened
tip.

17. (New) The surge absorber without chips defined in claim 2, wherein:
the projected surface comprises a protrusion having a substantially conical shape
extending from the broadened tip in a direction of a longitudinal axis of the lead portion.

18. (New) The surge absorber without chips defined in claim 2, wherein:
the projected surface comprises a protruding portion extending from an edge of the
broadened tip, the protruding portion delimiting a conical cavity in the broadened tip.

19. (New) The surge absorber without chips defined in claim 2, wherein:
the projected surface comprises a semi-spherical protrusion extending from the
broadened tip.

20. (New) The surge absorber without chips defined in claim 2, wherein:
the patterned surface comprises grooves forming a grid pattern on the broadened
tip.
